

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR WISCONSIN BAY AREA COUNTIES

August 2001



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

Unadjusted Unemployment Rates Decline in Most Bay Area Counties During July

The unadjusted rate decreased in eight of the area's ten counties during the month of July. Although the over the month figures show a decline in most of the counties, all of the counties had rates above last July.

The decline in the unemployment rate is due to slightly higher growth in employment in the month compared to the number of new workers entering the labor force. The number in the labor force for the region increased by 3,800 during the month. This was outpaced by an increase in the number of employed which was up by 4,600 from June. The larger growth in employment over labor force growth does not hold true in over the year figures however. Over the year, the labor force has increased by 22,500, while the number employed has grown 16,800.

Although the area showed improvement from the month of June, it should be noted that the rate for most of the counties spiked last month. This often occurs in June as the statistics for labor force data are gathered during the week of the month that the twelfth falls in. This at times affects the June count, as there are a large number of students and seasonal workers that are in the labor force at that time, but due to weather, school or other circumstances may not start work until a week or more later, thus they are counted as unemployed. When in fact, it is just a matter of timing.

In comparing the rate with May data before the June "spike", six of the ten counties and the Bay Area as a whole had increases in their unemployment rates. Only four counties had decreases and they were: Door, Kewaunee, Manitowoc and Shawano Counties. Most of the decreases were very minor, with declines under 0.2 of a percentage point with the exception of Door County which had a drop of 1.0 of a percentage point between May and July. Door County also has the largest portion of its employment based in the tourism industry with labor force and employment increasing close to 25 percent between April and June.

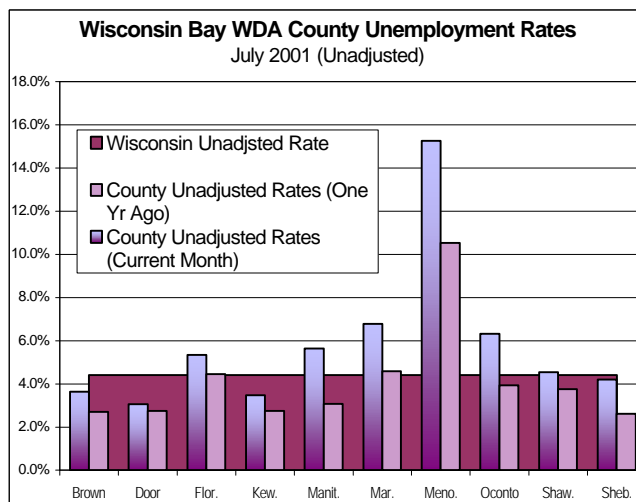
Four of the counties in the region had rates below the state's unadjusted rate for July. These were Brown, Door, Kewaunee and Sheboygan counties, the same as in June. The rest had rates above the state average. Menominee County had

the highest rate in the region at 15.2 percent, down from 15.6 percent last month.

Although the economy continues to remain weak, the number of jobs in nonfarm wage and salary industries continues to increase above one year ago levels. During June, there were about 7,000 more jobs in the area, this increased to 8,100 in July. The manufacturing sector has been affected the most by the slowdown in the economy. Only about 100 of the 8,100 new jobs in the area are in manufacturing. However, manufacturing has fared better in the region than the state as a whole. During the last year, manufacturing employment has declined by 24,800 jobs in Wisconsin. This has largely been offset by an increase of 15,000 jobs in the services sector.

Construction accounted for nearly 1,500 new jobs in the Bay Area. Many of these jobs are related to highway work and improvements on Lambeau Field and construction of retail space throughout the area. Trade was up about 1,700 as retail outlets have continued to expand or open new stores in the area. Services and miscellaneous employment increased

by 3,600 over the year. The only industry sector to show a loss over the last twelve months was in the finance, insurance and real estate industry. This industry was down 200 from last July.



Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rates in the two MSA's in the Wisconsin Bay Area increased for the second month in a row during July, the same as the State of Wisconsin. In Green Bay it rose 0.3 of a percentage point to 3.8

percent and in Sheboygan it increased 0.1 of a percentage point to 3.7 percent. The Green Bay rate was 1.0 a percentage point above one year ago, while Sheboygan's rate was 1.3 of a percentage point above last year. The rates continue to be below the rates of both the State of Wisconsin and the United States. The United States was at 4.5 percent unchanged from June but up 0.5 of a percentage point from one year ago. Wisconsin's rate also was unchanged from June at 4.4 percent. This was an increase of 0.7 of a percentage from July of 2000.

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A note to subscribers of the Wisconsin Bay Area

Labor Market Review:

The new *Workforce Observations for the Wisconsin Bay Area Counties* supercedes the *Wisconsin Bay Area Labor Market Review* as a current and timely labor market information source for Northeast Wisconsin Counties. The data reported in the new version will be for the month previous to the publication date, e.g., this August 2001 issue will report local area data for the month of July 2001. In the previous *Labor Market Review* format, the reported data lagged two calendar months. We are con-

fident that this will serve as a more timely compendium of local labor market and other economic information.

Workforce Observations condenses from four pages to a two-page format. Volume and issue number will no longer be contained as the review will be labeled only by month and year. The most current labor force and non-farm wage and salary employment figures will continue to be displayed comparing month-ago and year-ago figures. Analysis of the current labor market will be also be offered along with the data. This will be mailed roughly the last week of every month.

Wisconsin Bay Workforce Development Area

July 2001	Brown	Door	Florn.	Kewan.	Mantwc.	Maritt.	Menom	Oconto	Shawn.	Sheboy.	Region	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force*	147,100	18,500	1,700	11,700	48,900	22,800	2,600	17,800	21,100	69,600	361,700	3,128,300
Employed	141,700	18,000	1,600	11,300	46,100	21,200	2,200	16,700	20,100	66,700	345,600	2,990,500
Unemployed	5,400	600	100	400	2,800	1,500	400	1,100	1,000	2,900	16,100	137,800
Unemployment rate(%)	3.6%	3.1%	5.3%	3.5%	5.6%	6.8%	15.2%	6.3%	4.6%	4.2%	4.4%	4.4%
Total, all industries**	151,900	15,600	1,100	7,100	39,900	20,300	2,100	10,400	12,600	67,100	328,200	2,855,600
Construction & Mining	9,700	1,200	100	700	2,100	800	0	800	600	3,600	19,500	141,200
Manufacturing	30,800	2,600	300	2,300	14,700	7,000	0	3,500	2,700	28,000	91,900	601,200
Transportation & Public Util.	10,800	300	0	500	2,000	900	100	400	600	1,900	17,400	134,400
Wholesale Trade	8,600	300	0	100	1,300	700	0	100	500	2,100	13,700	140,400
Retail Trade	25,000	3,900	300	1,100	6,000	3,500	100	1,900	2,700	9,300	53,800	504,300
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	11,000	800	0	300	900	500	0	200	400	1,900	16,100	154,300
Services	39,500	4,900	200	1,300	8,400	4,800	0	1,800	2,600	14,000	77,700	797,100
Government	16,600	1,700	200	900	4,400	2,100	1,900	1,600	2,600	6,200	38,100	382,700
Change from previous month												
Civilian Labor Force*	1,800	800	0	100	200	0	100	300	100	500	3,800	13,700
Employed	2,100	900	0	200	600	0	100	300	200	300	4,600	17,500
Unemployed	-400	-100	0	-100	-400	100	0	0	-100	200	-800	-3,800
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.3%	-0.6%	-1.0%	-0.8%	-0.8%	0.3%	-0.3%	0.0%	-0.5%	0.3%	-0.3%	-0.1%
Total, all industries**	-300	500	0	-100	-200	-400	100	-100	-200	-800	-1,500	-26,600
Construction & Mining	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	400	3,900
Manufacturing	100	0	0	0	300	0	0	0	0	200	600	1,700
Transportation & Public Util.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	-100	-3,300
Wholesale Trade	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	1,000
Retail Trade	-400	300	0	0	-100	0	0	0	0	-100	-400	-1,400
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000
Services	300	200	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	-300	200	800
Government	-1,000	-100	0	-100	-500	-500	100	-100	-100	-600	-2,800	-30,300
Change from year ago												
Civilian Labor Force*	9,400	1,200	100	700	2,800	900	200	1,400	600	400	22,500	124,400
Employed	7,800	1,100	100	600	1,500	400	100	900	400	600	16,800	99,000
Unemployed	1,600	100	0	100	1,300	500	100	500	200	400	5,700	25,400
Unemployment rate(%)	0.9%	0.3%	0.9%	0.7%	2.5%	2.2%	4.7%	2.4%	0.8%	1.6%	1.4%	0.7%
Total, all industries**	4,900	600	100	100	200	-200	0	300	-200	2,400	8,100	900
Construction & Mining	700	100	0	0	-100	0	0	100	0	700	1,500	100
Manufacturing	200	0	0	100	0	-200	0	0	0	100	100	-24,800
Transportation & Public Util.	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	200	400	2,100
Wholesale Trade	700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	800	-700
Retail Trade	100	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	400	900	3,400
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	-300	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-200	3,800
Services	2,400	100	0	100	100	100	0	100	0	800	3,600	15,000
Government	1,000	0	0	-100	0	-200	0	100	-100	100	1,000	2,000

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2000

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI

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